

### **Focus Area 3: Cancer**

**Objective 3-1** targets an overall reduction in the cancer (malignant neoplasm) death rate to 159.9 per 100,000 population.

California's age-adjusted death rates for cancer were 179.6 per 100,000 population in 2000, 175.5 in 2001, 169.4 in 2002, and 165.0 in 2003 (Figure 3-1, Table 3-1). Although declining, California's cancer death rates are significantly higher than the HP2010 objective of 159.9 per 100,000 population.

California data by race and ethnicity show that Blacks/African Americans had the highest age-adjusted cancer death rates: 241.2 per 100,000 in 2000; 241.5 in 2001; 228.9 in 2002; and 224.8 in 2003. The next highest cancer death rates were reported for Whites (196.0 per 100,000 in 2000, 191.9 in 2001, 187.0 in 2002, and 181.2 in 2003), followed by Pacific Islanders (182.9 per 100,000 in 2000, 192.5 in 2001, 177.7 in 2002, and 182.7 in 2003). These rates are significantly higher than the HP2010 target of 159.9 per 100,000 population, and the objective is not being achieved for these racial and ethnic groups. The HP2010 objective for cancer death rates is, however, being achieved for the American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Hispanic/Latino, and "Multirace" populations.

Age-adjusted cancer death rates for males were significantly higher than rates for females, and also significantly higher than the HP2010 target. Cancer death rates for males ranged from 214.0 per 100,000 population in 2000 to 193.0 in 2003, and rates for females ranged from 157.2 per 100,000 in 2000 to 145.5 in 2003. The HP2010 objective is being achieved for females, but not for males.

For more information on cancer (malignant neoplasms) in California, visit the California Cancer Registry Web site at:

<http://www.ccrca.org/>

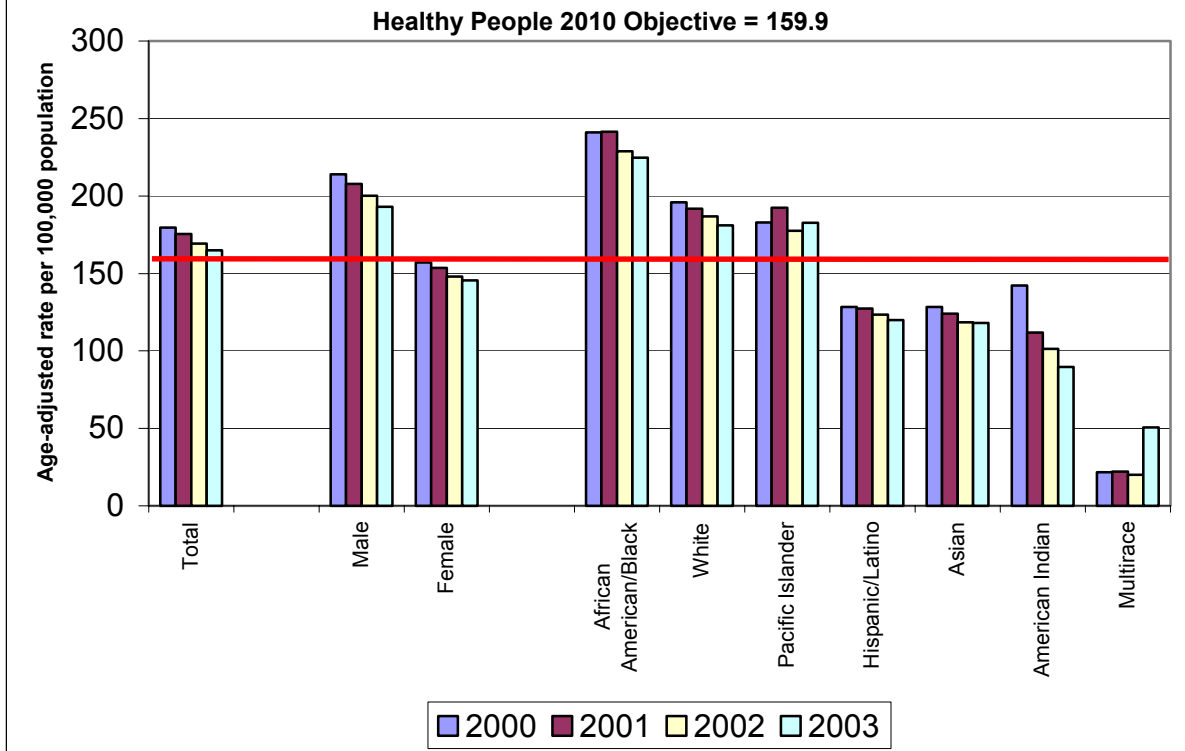
For more information on Healthy People 2010 objective 3-1, please visit:

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/HTML/Volume1/03Cancer.htm>

and

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/html/tracking/od03.htm>

**Figure 3-1**  
**Cancer (Malignant Neoplasm) Death Rates**  
**California, 2000-2003**



**Table 3-1**  
**Cancer (Malignant Neoplasm) Deaths and Death Rates**  
**California, 2000-2003**

	2000		Lower	Upper	2001		Lower	Upper
	N	Rate <sup>1</sup>	95% C.I.	95% C.I.	N	Rate <sup>1</sup>	95% C.I.	95% C.I.
<b>Healthy People 2010 Target</b>		<b>159.9</b>				<b>159.9</b>		
<b>CALIFORNIA TOTAL</b>	53,001	179.6	178.1	181.2	53,809	175.5	174.0	177.0
<b>Race-Ethnicity</b>								
African American/Black	3,880	241.2	233.4	248.9	4,050	241.5	233.9	249.0
American Indian	188	142.3	121.0	163.6	167	111.9	94.2	129.5
Asian	3,825	128.4	124.3	132.6	4,002	124.0	120.0	127.9
Hispanic/Latino	5,799	128.5	124.9	132.0	6,216	127.4	124.0	130.8
Pacific Islander	112	182.9	145.4	220.4	130	192.5	156.3	228.6
White	39,112	196.0	194.0	197.9	39,148	191.9	190.0	193.8
Multirace	69	21.7	16.3	27.1	75	22.1	16.8	27.4
<b>Gender</b>								
Female	26,246	157.2	155.3	159.1	26,555	153.7	151.8	155.6
Male	26,755	214.0	211.4	216.6	27,254	207.7	205.2	210.2

	2002		Lower	Upper	2003		Lower	Upper
	N	Rate <sup>1</sup>	95% C.I.	95% C.I.	N	Rate <sup>1</sup>	95% C.I.	95% C.I.
<b>Healthy People 2010 Target</b>		<b>159.9</b>				<b>159.9</b>		
<b>CALIFORNIA TOTAL</b>	53,926	169.4	168.0	170.8	54,303	165.0	163.7	166.4
<b>Race-Ethnicity</b>								
African American/Black	3,982	228.9	221.6	236.1	4,067	224.8	217.8	231.9
American Indian	178	101.2	85.8	116.7	178	89.8	76.1	103.5
Asian	4,074	118.4	114.7	122.1	4,250	118.1	114.5	121.6
Hispanic/Latino	6,382	123.4	120.1	126.6	6,665	119.9	116.9	123.0
Pacific Islander	128	177.7	144.4	210.9	150	182.7	151.6	213.8
White	39,097	187.0	185.1	188.8	38,761	181.2	179.3	183.0
Multirace	72	20.0	15.2	24.8	186	50.6	43.1	58.1
<b>Gender</b>								
Female	26,467	148.0	146.2	149.8	26,808	145.5	143.7	147.2
Male	27,459	200.2	197.8	202.6	27,495	193.0	190.7	195.4

SOURCES: CA Department of Health Services, Death Records, 2000-2003; CA Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit, Population Projections by Race/Ethnicity for California and Its Counties 2000-2030, May 2004.

NOTES: Cancer (malignant neoplasm) deaths defined by ICD-10 codes C00 - C97.

<sup>1</sup> Rate per 100,000 population, age-adjusted using the 2000 US population standard; excludes death records with unknown ages.